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Secn. H-27—100,000—31-3-48

DEVELOPMENT (19[illegible]47) Department.

MS. SERIES.

G.O. No. 5344

Dated 18--11--1947.

[Despatch Abstract.]

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - Starred Question No.321 - Newspapers and Periodicals published in Madras Province - Papers recorded.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS PUBLISHED IN THIS PROVINCE.

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*88 Q. - MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state--

(a) the number of newspapers and periodicals that have been started and published in this Province since April 1947;

(b) the conditions prescribed by the Government before permission to start a newspaper or a periodical is granted; and

(c) whether the Government are satisfied that such permission is granted by the District Collectors after a thorough enquiry?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:-- "(a) About 71.

"(b) Under clause 9(a) of the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1945, permission from the Government of India is necessary for starting publication of any newspaper or periodical that was not regularly published immediately preceding 7th November 1942 on paper other than newsprint. No such permission is, however, necessary for the starting of any new newspaper or journal issued at regular intervals of not more than one month, if it is published on newsprint. The Government have not prescribed any conditions which the applicants have to satisy before permission to start a newspaperxx or periodical is granted. But publishers of newspapers, both on newsprint and on paper other than newsprint, have to file the necessary declarations under section 5 of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras, or the District Magistrates or the Subdivisional Magistrates, as the case may be, before starting publication of their newspapers.

"(c) There is no provision in the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, according to which a District Magistrate should hold an enquiry when a declaration for starting a newspaper is filed. The District Magistrates have no power to refuse the declarations and they will have to accept the declarations,xx if filed by any party under section 5 of the Act. But, if the circumstances warrant such a course they can direct any publisher of a newspaper to deposit security under section 7 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931 within ten days from the day on which the declaration is made".

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

A.S.VI.

Please see the extracts on pages 3-4 above from the printed copy of the Assembly Proceedings dated 23-9-1947. No further action is called for in this file. The papers may be recorded.

ABSTRACT.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - Starred Question No.321 - Newspapers and Periodicals published in Madras Province - Papers recorded.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

G.O.Ms.No.5344 Dev. Dated 18th November 1947.

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ERVD.28.12. OFFICE ASSISTANT. M.R.O